

VZCZCXRO9544

RR RUEHBZ RUEHDU RUEHGI RUEHJO RUEHMR RUEHRN

DE RUEHKI #0168 0461341

ZNR UUUUU ZZH

R 151341Z FEB 08

FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 7547

INFO RUEHXR/RWANDA COLLECTIVE

RUCNSAD/SOUTHERN AF DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY COLLECTIVE

RHMFISS/HQ USEUCOM VAIHINGEN GE

RUZEJAA/JAC MOLESWORTH RAF MOLESWORTH UK

RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC

RHEFDIA/DIA WASHDC

UNCLAS KINSHASA 000168

SIPDIS

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: PGOV PREL MARR SOCI KJUS CG

SUBJECT: DIIILS wraps up first round of training in prosecution and investigation of sex crimes

REF: KINSHASA 89

¶1. A/DCM took part in closing ceremonies for graduates of Defense Institute of International Legal Studies (DIIILS) training February 8 at the Higher Military Training Institute (GESM). The event was the capstone of a program designed to bolster the capacity of Congolese military justice officials to investigate and prosecute sex crimes (reftel). Defense Minister Chikez Diemu delivered remarks highlighting the DRC government's commitment to the fight against sexual violence.

¶2. The training was part of the inaugural DIIILS program in the DRC, consisting of courses in Kisangani and Matadi as well as Kinshasa. The second round of courses is scheduled for May 2008 in other areas of the country.

¶3. Colonel Dominic McAlea of MONUC's Rule of Law Unit, who was closely involved in the program, told Emboffs the training was "great bang for the buck." He cited the almost complete lack of equipment and prior instruction for Congolese military investigators and prosecutors, and noted that journalists had asked him when this type of program would be available to civilian officials.

¶4. Comment: DIIILS' current \$500,000 funding will end with the second round of classes in May. Embassy strongly recommends continued funding of this program, which has been enthusiastically received by its managers and students, as well as by the Congolese press. End comment.

GARVELINK